

AP US Government

Course Description

AP US Government offers students the opportunity to see how individuals and their ideas can shape the world in which they live; it invites them to explore central questions of liberty and justice in practice. In this course, you will be studying the American experience in self-governance. The objective of this course is not only to fulfill a state requirement for graduation but also to instill in you a sense of civic responsibility. Civic participation is an obligation and fulfilling this obligation requires knowledge-an understanding of the purpose, principles, and practices of American Government. Remember the words of Thomas Jefferson: "Whenever people are well informed, they can be trusted with their own government."

Prerequisites

None

Course Materials

Required

- Microsoft Office or Google Docs (See the Minimum Technical Skills and Special Technology Utilized by Students)
- Reliable Internet Access
- Laptop or Desktop (Tablets need Puffin app for internet browsing)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- *Government in America: People, Politics, and Policy 14th edition (or newer) Pearson Publishing*

Recommended

None

Course Goals

Upon completion of the course, students will...

- Critically analyze relevant theories and concepts, apply them appropriately, and make connections across the curriculum
- Interpret, understand, and explain key data relevant to U.S. Government and Politics (including data found in charts, tables, and other formats)
- Describe and compare important facts, concepts, and theories pertaining to U.S Government and Politics
- Explain typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences (including the components of political behavior, the principles used to explain or justify various government structures and procedures, and the political effects of these structures and procedures)
- Be able to fully understand the roles of all branches of government and how they relate to each other as well as to the American public.

Units of Instruction

- Assignments to be Completed Throughout the Course
- Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy
- Unit 2: Interactions Among Branches of Government
- Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- Unit 4: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs
- Unit 5: Political Participation

Assignments

The course includes the following assignments:

1. 2 Discussions
2. 25 Dropboxes
3. 13 Quizzes (Includes Unit Test and Final Exam)

Grading / Evaluation

Grading Scheme

Course grades will be determined as follows:

97% or better	A+	77% to 79%	C+
93% to 96%	A	73% to 76%	C
90% to 92%	A -	70% to 72%	C -
87% to 89%	B +	67% to 69%	D+
83% to 86%	B	63% to 66%	D
80% to 82%	B -	60% to 62%	D-
		59% or less	F

Assignment Descriptions and Weightings

The assignments for this course are weighted as follows:

Assignments	Percentage of Final Grade
Course Work (Discussions, Dropboxes and Quizzes)	80%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%



Instructor Contact Response Time

Contact information for the Indiana Online Instructor can be found by clicking on the Course Home link in the navigation menu.

The instructor will respond to student inquiries (email, text, call) **within 24 hours**. Assignments will be graded within 24 hours and grades will be posted.

Information about Final Exam

The Final Exam must be proctored. Final Exams count for 30% of the total grade. Coursework and the Final Exam will determine the Final Grade.

Expectations for Academic Conduct

Student Handbook

It is your responsibility to read the [student handbook](#) and contact your instructor if you have any questions.

Acceptable Use & Netiquette Policy

The [Acceptable Use Policy](#) outlines the guidelines and behaviors that all users (administrators, teachers, students and parents) are expected to follow when participating in the Indiana Online program.

Academic Integrity

Honesty is the [Indiana Online policy](#)!

CIPA

The [Children's Internet Protection Act](#) (CIPA) is a federal law enacted by Congress to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on school and library computers.

Assistance for Students with Disabilities

Indiana Online supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, such as inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captioned videos and podcasts, reasonable accommodations can be arranged.

Learn more about the [accessibility features](#) in Indiana Online's Learning Management System (LMS), Desire2Learn.

Suggested Assistive Technologies

- Screen Readers: [VoiceOver](#) and [NVDA](#)
- Chrome Extensions: [ChromeVox](#) and [Speakit!](#)

Minimum Technical Skills and Special Technology Utilized by Students

This course is totally online. All instructional content and interaction takes place over the internet. In addition to baseline word processing skills and sending/receiving email with attachments, students will



be expected to search the internet and upload / download files. In addition, students may need one or more of these [technology plug-ins](#) to access course materials and content.

Students should have access to Microsoft Office or have an established Google account to work on course documents.

Technical Questions? Please contact the [Indiana Online Helpdesk](#).